

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13
OIC-02 ACDA-10 AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00
CIAE-00 CIEP-02 COME-00 DLOS-06 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07
EPA-04 ERDA-07 FEAE-00 FMC-02 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07
INT-05 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-02 OMB-01
PA-02 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAL-01 /180 W

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R 061834Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8478

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 19673

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: EWWT, PORG, IMCO

SUBJ: IMCO - SIXTH MEETING OF MARINE ENVIRONMENT

PROTECTION COMMITTEE, 29 NOV - 3 DEC 1976

1. THE MARINE ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION COMMITTEE HELD ITS
SIXTH SESSION FROM 29 NOV TO 3 DEC. DELEGATIONS FROM
. MEETING SUCCESSFUL

IN DISCUSSING ALL AGENDA ITEMS. INTERNATIONAL SPECIFIC-
ATIONS AND TYPE TEST GUIDELINES FOR OIL WATER SEPARATORS,
OIL CONTENT METERS, AND SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS AND
GUIDELINES FOR OIL RECEPTION FACILITIES FOR OILY
WASTES (AGENDA ITEMS 7, 8 AND 9) ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE.
THE U.S. DELEGATION PARTICIPATED FULLY IN ALL WORK
OF THE COMMITTEE.

2. WORK OF THE COMMITTEE WAS PERFORMED PRINCIPALLY IN
PLENARY WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FOUR AD HOC WORKING
GROUPS TO CONSIDER (A) SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS FOR SHIPS
(B) OILY WATER SEPARATORS AND OIL CONTENT METERS,
(C) RECEPTION FACILITIES FOR OIL WASTES, AND (D)
CONTINGENCY PLANNING SECTION OF COMPREHENSIVE ANTI-
POLLUTION MANUAL. WORK OF AD HOC GROUPS AND ADOPTION OF

UTILIZATION OF EXTRA TEAM OF INTERPRETERS FOR AD HOC
GROUPS AND EARLY COMPLETION OF WORK IN ORDER FOR
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TRANSLATION FINAL SPECIFICATIONS AND GUIDELINES INTO

IMCO WORKING LANGUAGES.

3. DURING COURSE OF MEETING IT WAS REPORTED THAT NIGERIA RATIFYING 1969 AMENDMENTS TO 1954 OP CONVENTION EFFECTIVE 30 APRIL 1977. ADDITIONALLY KUWAIT, IVORY COAST, MEXICO; SWITZERLAND SAID TO BE ON VERGE OF RATIFYING.

4. ON MATTERS OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CLOSE COMPLEMENTARY IMCO-UNEP RELATIONSHIP ON FUTURE INITIATIVES TO ASSIST GOVERNMENTS AND REGIONS IN DEVELOPING COMPREHENSIVE PLANS DESCRIBED. COMMITTEE ENDORSED ACTION OF SG IN THIS REGARD. TRAINING REMAINS AREA OF HIGHEST PRIORITY. SG MADE PERSONAL APPEAL FOR GOVERNMENTS TO MAKE FELLOWSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR BENEFIT OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

5. US SUCCESSFUL IN DEFERRING COMMITTEE DECISION ON SEGREGATED BALLAST IN EXISTING SHIPS. FROM STATEMENTS COMMITTEE APPARENTLY EVENLY SPLIT ON WHETHER OR NOT TO ADOPT. FRANCE SUPPORTED BY SEVERAL OTHER DELEGATIONS REGISTERED STRONG RESERVATIONS ABOUT ADOPTION, STATING THAT CREDIBILITY OF IMCO AND 1973 MP CONVENTION WILL BE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED BY AMENDING CONVENTION BEFORE IT ENTERS INTO FORCE. KUWAIT AND ARAB LEAGUE REPORTEDLY ON BEHALF SEVERAL COUNTRIES THREATENED UNILATERAL ACTION IF NOT ADOPTED.

6. UK INITIATIVE ON PROCEDURES FOR CONTROL OF SHIPS ATTACKED BY MANY (LEAD BY USSR) ON BASIS THAT SCHEME FOR IN-PORT INSPECTION OF TANKERS WOULD SEEM TO EXTEND

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JURISDICTION OF PORT STATES OVER FOREIGN VESSEL. COMMITTEE AGREED TO DEFER QUESTION PENDING RE-DRAFT OF RELEVANT DOCUMENTS TO CLARIFY THAT SCHEME IS VOLUNTARY.

7. COMMITTEE ADOPTED REGULATIONS FOR NOMINATION OF EXPERTS UNDER TERMS OF ARTICLE IV OF 1969 INTERVENTION CONVENTION.

8. AS REGARDS FUTURE WORK PROGRAM, COMMITTEE AGREED REQUEST COUNCIL TO PROVIDE TWO MEETING WEEKS A YEAR FOR BOTH MEPC AND BCH, THE LATTER IN VIEW IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO COMPLETION OF MATTERS RELATED ANNEX II, 73 CONVENTION. COMMITTEE AGREED ON AGENDA FOR 7TH AND 8TH SESSIONS AND TO CONTINUE CURRENT WORK METHOD OF USING AD HOC WORKING GROUPS MEETING DURING SESSION. COUNCIL WILL BE URGED TO PROVIDE EXTRA TEAM INTERPRETERS FOR FIRST THREE DAYS OF BOTH 7TH AND 8TH SESSIONS.

9. AGENDA FOR NEXT SESSION ABBREVIATED TO INCLUDE ONLY NINE ITEMS OF SUBSTANCE IN ORDER TO TACKLE NO MORE WORK THAN CAN REASONABLY BE EXPECTED TO BE CONCLUDED IN FIVE WORKING DAYS. NEXT SESSION SCHEDULED FOR 20-24 JUNE 1977.

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